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2656-64

28 APR 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Overflight of Cuba on 1 May

1. Although it may, in fact, have little substance, the thought occurs that if Castro is seriously considering a "shoot-down" of a U-2, from a propaganda standpoint he could not select a better time than 1 May, the traditional Communist holiday, and more significantly the Fourth Anniversary of the "infamous" Francis Gary Powers incident.

2. From a psychological viewpoint, identification of a new U-2 shoot-down with that incident on May Day four years ago might have considerable appeal to Fidel and might conceivably influence his judgment in reaching a determination to take such action.

3. Recognizing that this association is rather tenuous, it might still be worth considering a stand-down of U-2 overflights on that one day. This would not seriously impair our intelligence effort and it would deprive Castro of the opportunity to exploit this rather unique circumstance should he have any inclination to do so. OK?

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Deputy Assistant Director  
(Special Activities)

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Handle via   
Control System

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SAL/OSA/ sld

**Distribution:**

- 1 - DDCI
- 2 - Exec. Reg.
- 3 - DD/S&T
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- 5 - DAD/OSA
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- 7 - PS/OSA
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